

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 1 and cancel Claim 10 as follows without prejudice to the prosecution of the remaining claims. The status of the claims is as follows:.

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for positioning a hole former within a casting mold, said casting mold comprising an inner mold form and an outer jacket, said inner mold form further comprising an inner surface and an upper surface, said device comprising:
At least one hole former member that is adapted for secured placement against at least one of said inner surface or outer jacket;
At least one bracket member capable of attachment to said ~~mandrel~~ hole former member, said bracket member adapted to substantially abut said inner surface and said upper surface;
At least one magnet assembly, said magnet assembly being adapted to releasably attach said bracket to said upper surface.
2. (Original) The device for positioning a hole former of claim 1, wherein said at least one magnet assembly comprises a plurality of magnets, a plurality of pole pieces, and an outer casing.
3. (Original) The device for positioning a hole former of claim 2, wherein said outer casing further comprises a cavity, wherein said plurality of magnets are alternately disposed with said plurality of pole pieces.
4. (Original) The device for positioning a hole former of claim 3, wherein said alternately disposed plurality of pole pieces and said alternately disposed plurality of magnets further comprises a channel that is capable of receiving said bracket member.

5. (Original) The device for positioning a hole former of claim 4, wherein said plurality of magnets are constructed of a material selected from a group consisting of ceramic ferrite, samarium-cobalt, neodymium-iron-boron, or a combination thereof.
6. (Original) The device for positioning a hole former of claim 4, wherein said pole pieces are constructed of carbon steel.
7. (Original) The device for positioning a hole former according to claim 3, wherein said magnet assembly further comprises an epoxy for retaining said alternately disposed magnets and pole pieces within said cavity.
8. (Original) The device for positioning a hole former according to claim 7, wherein said cavity further comprises a chamfered inner wall creating a space between said inner wall and said alternately disposed magnets and alternately disposed pole pieces, said space being substantially filled by said epoxy.
9. (Original) The device for positioning a hole former according to claim 3, wherein said magnet assembly further comprises a magnet groove that is capable of interfacing with said outer casing.
10. (Cancelled).
11. (Withdrawn) A method of positioning a hole former to be used in cast material within a casting mold comprising an inner mold form and an outer jacket, said inner mold form further comprising an inner surface and an upper surface, said method comprising the steps of:
anchoring a bracket having a first end and a second end to said upper surface of said casting mold at said first end of said bracket using a magnet assembly;
attaching a hole former assembly to said second end of said bracket, said second end being remotely located from said first end; and

securely positioning said hole former against at least one of said inner surface and said outer jacket.

12. (Withdrawn) The method for positioning a hole former of claim 11, wherein said at least one magnet assembly comprises a plurality of magnets, a plurality of pole pieces, and an outer casing.
13. (Withdrawn) The method for positioning a hole former of claim 12, wherein said outer casing further comprises a cavity, wherein said plurality of magnets are alternately disposed with said plurality of pole pieces.
14. (Withdrawn) The method for positioning a hole former of claim 13, wherein said alternately disposed plurality of pole pieces and said alternately disposed plurality of magnets further comprises a channel that is capable of receiving said bracket member.
15. (Withdrawn) The method for positioning a hole former of claim 4, wherein said plurality of magnets are constructed of a material selected from a group consisting of ceramic ferrite, samarium-cobalt, neodymium-iron-boron, or a combination thereof.
16. (Withdrawn) The method for positioning a hole former of claim 14, wherein said pole pieces are constructed of carbon steel.
17. (Withdrawn) The method for positioning a hole former according to claim 13, wherein said magnet assembly further comprises an epoxy for retaining said alternately disposed magnets and pole pieces within said cavity.
18. (Withdrawn) The method for positioning a hole former according to claim 17, wherein said cavity further comprises a chamfered inner wall creating a space between said inner wall and said alternately disposed magnets and alternately disposed pole pieces, said space being substantially filled by said epoxy.

19. (Withdrawn) The method for positioning a hole former according to claim 13, wherein said magnet assembly further comprises a magnet groove that is capable of interfacing with said outer casing.
20. (Withdrawn) A cast object with a hole formed therein made according to the method of claim 11.